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6 a light diffusing section formed on part of the side face of the  
7 guide, for diffusing the light incident thereon by refraction,

8 wherein at least part of the light entering the interior of the  
9 guide goes out from part of the side face of the guide facing the light  
10 diffusing section, thereby providing substantially linear illumination light  
11 along the first direction.

1 2. (Amended) A linear illumination device according to  
2 claim 1, wherein the light transmitting material has a light transmittance of  
3 80% or more [(according to ASTM measuring method D1003)] measured in  
4 accordance with ASTM measuring method D1003.

#### REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

#### Summary of the Invention

Applicants claim in claim 1 a linear illumination device including a guide made of a light transmitting material extending in a first direction, having a side face and at least one end face; light emitting means for allowing light to enter interior of the guide from the at least one end face of the guide; and a light diffusing section formed on part of the side face of the guide, for diffusing the light incident thereon by refraction. At least part of the light entering the interior of the guide goes out from part of the side face of the guide facing the light diffusing section, thereby providing substantially linear illumination light along the first direction.

#### Status of the Claims

(1) Claims 2, 10 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.